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Message Text

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40
ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25

ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11 AID-20 MC-02 /161 R

DRAFTED BY DSAA- MR. CAIN: PCS
6-25-73
APPROVED BY AF/ N- MR. BLAKE
OASD/ ISA- MR. BADER
J-5- CAPT CONNELLY
PM/ MAS- MR. COONEY
PM/ PA- CAPT COCHRANE
AF/ RA- MR. NAVEZ
AF/ N- MR. MACK
---------- 056056
R 261717 Z JUN 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124539

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, TS
SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR F-86
REF: TUNIS 3164

1. DEPARTMENT AND DOD BELIEVE UNCERTAINTY OF FUTURE GRANT AID FUNDS PRECLUDES OFFER TO GOT OF GRANT/ CREDIT A-4- B/ C PACKAGE ALONG LINES PROPOSED BY EMBASSY (REFTEL).

2. STILL UNCERTAIN WHETHER GRANT MATERIEL PROGRAM FOR TUNISIA WILL BE AVAILABLE IN FY 75. EVEN IF PROGRAM WERE LIKELY, WE CANNOT MAKE FUTURE YEAR COMMITMENT AGAINST FUNDS NOT YET AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS. ALSO, ALTHOUGH A-4- B/ C SUITABLE FOLLOW- ON TO F-86, GOT LIKELY WILL HAVE RESERVATIONS CONCERNING ALLEGED AGE AND OBSOLESCENCE.
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CONSEQUENTLY, WE WOULD PREFER NOT REOPENING FOLLOW- ON AIRCRAFT DIALOGUE IN CONTEXT GRANT COMPONENT AND PERPETUATE TUNISIAN IDEA WE STILL OWE THEM SOMETHING RE FOLLOW- ON AIRCRAFT.

3. WE SUGGEST, THEREFORE, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CONSIDER UTILITY OF FIRST EXPLORING WITH GOT GENERAL ACCEPTABILITY OF A-4- B/ C FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER POSSIBLE FUTURE CREDIT, DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND WITHOUT MAKING ANY COMMITMENT. WE COULD THEN CONSIDER WHETHER PROVIDE AIRCRAFT " AS IS" UNDER MIMEX PROGRAM AT NO COST EXCEPT FOR MODERNIZATION AND REHAB. IN EFFECT, THIS WOULD REPRESENT

GRANT COMPONENT OF DOLS 40,000 FOR A-4- B AIR FRAME AND DOLS 53,000 FOR A-4- C. POSSIBILITY EXISTS WE MIGHT BE ABLE CHARGE AGAINST FY 74 MIMEX PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH NOT PROVIDING ALL UNTIL FY 75. MODERNIZATION AND REHABILITA- TION COSTS ARE ESTIMATED TO BE BETWEEN DOLS 300,000 AND DOLS 400,000 DPENDING ON TYPE OF AIRCRAFT SELECTED AND DESIRED CONFIGURATION; ASSOCIATED GROUND ENVIRONMENT (AGE) COSTS ARE ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT DOLS 200,000 FOR ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND DOLS 700,000 FOR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL MAINTENANCE; SPARE/ REPAIR SUPPORT FOR 18 MONTHS IS ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT DOLS 1 MILLION. DELIVERY, TRAINING, PUBLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES WOULD BE ADDITIONAL. THERE WOULD BE SUBSEQUENT RECURRING ANNUAL COSTS FOR SPARES. ROGERS

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
Type: TE
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